



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday  
March 28,  
2022

# DAILY REPORT

36th  
Legislative  
Day

House Budget & Research Office  
(404) 656-5050

- The House will reconvene for its 37th Legislative Day on Tuesday, March 29 at 10:00 a.m.
- The Rules Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m.
- 11 bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

## Today on the Floor

### Motions to Insist

#### **HB 911 General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023**

Bill Summary: House Bill 911, the FY 2023 budget, is based on a revenue estimate of \$30.2 billion, an increase of 10.8% over original FY 2022 budget.

The bill and tracking sheet may be found on the House Budget and Research Office website:  
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/house/budget-research-office>

**Authored By:** Rep. David Ralston (7th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open  
**Motions to Insist:** (A motion to insist sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)

### Motions to Disagree

#### **HB 911 General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023**

Bill Summary: House Bill 911, the FY 2023 budget, is based on a revenue estimate of \$30.2 billion, an increase of 10.8% over original FY 2022 budget.

The bill and tracking sheet may be found on the House Budget and Research Office website:  
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/house/budget-research-office>

**Authored By:** Rep. David Ralston (7th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open  
**Motions to Disagree:** (A motion to disagree sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)

### Rules Calendar

#### **SB 87 "Senator Jack Hill Veterans' Act"; enact**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 87, the 'Senator Jack Hill Veterans' Act,' offers taxpayers the opportunity to contribute to the Technical College System of Georgia Foundation through the Department of Revenue. Taxpayers may elect on their income tax form to authorize the Department of Revenue to reduce the amount of the refund check by the desired amount or to contribute the desired amount above the amount of taxes owed by adding to the taxpayer's payment. The Department of Revenue shall transmit all funds received to the Technical College System of Georgia Foundation. The funds received by the foundation shall be used exclusively to award scholarships to veterans with service-connected disabilities.

**Authored By:** Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd)  
**House Committee:** Ways & Means  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 169 Nays: 0

**Rule Applied:** Structured  
**Committee Action:** 02-10-2022 Do Pass by Committee Substitute  
**Amendments:**

**SB 152 State and Other Flags; pledge of allegiance to the state flag; add language**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 152 updates the wording of the pledge of allegiance to the state flag.

**Authored By:** Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
**House** Governmental Affairs  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 125 Nays: 23

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-23-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**  
**Amendments:**

**SB 332 "Inform Consumers Act" enact**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 332, the 'Inform Consumers Act,' compels online marketplaces to require any high-volume third-party seller (a third-party seller that has entered into at least 200 transactions of new or unused products of at least \$5,000 in any continuous 12-month period) to provide on its platform bank account information, contact information, and a business tax or taxpayer identification number to the online marketplace not later than 10 days after qualifying as a high-volume third-party seller. The online marketplace shall notify each high-volume third-party seller of the requirement to keep this information up to date. Failure to do so requires the online marketplace to suspend any future sales activity until this information is provided.

SB 332 requires high-volume third-party sellers on online marketplaces to disclose to consumers identity information such as the seller's name, physical address, and contact information. Such identity information shall be provided on the product listing page or in the order confirmation following the purchase. Partial disclosure of identity information may be granted to the high-volume third-party seller by the online marketplace if it is certified that the seller does not have the particular identity information.

The attorney general may bring a civil action if he or she has reason to believe that an online marketplace has committed a violation.

**Authored By:** Sen. John Albers (56th)  
**House** Judiciary  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 155 Nays: 4

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-21-2022 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute  
**Amendments:**

**SB 337 Public Officers; suspension of compensation because of indictment for a felony; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 337 discontinues compensation for a public official if the official is suspended as a result of a felony indictment.

**Authored By:** Sen. Larry Walker III (20th)  
**House** Governmental Affairs  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 149 Nays: 4

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-23-2022 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute  
**Amendments:**

**SB 438 Contracts; certain provisions relating to retainage of progress payments; change**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 438 alters the retainage amount for progress payments on public works construction contracts from the current formula of 10 percent of the value of the completed work until 50 percent of the contract is completed to a new formula of five percent throughout the contract.

**Authored By:** Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
**House** Judiciary  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 151 Nays: 0

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-21-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**  
**Amendments:**

**SB 461 Bails, Bonds; human trafficking as a bailable offense; add the offense**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 461 adds human trafficking-related crimes in O.C.G.A. 16-5-46 to the list of crimes that are not eligible for an unsecured judicial release.

**Authored By:** Sen. Clint Dixon (45th)  
**House** Judiciary Non-Civil  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 166 Nays: 0

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-22-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**  
**Amendments:**

**SB 562 Department of Administrative Services; companies owned or operated by Russia to bid on or submit a proposal for a state contract; prohibit**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 562 prohibits companies owned or operated by the governments of Russia or Belarus from bidding on or submitting a proposal for a state contract. The bill requires a company that submits a bid or a contract proposal to certify that the company is not a Chinese government-affiliated entity or owned or operated by the government of China. A company's false certification will result in civil liability, termination of contract, and ineligibility for future contracts.

**Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)  
**House** Governmental Affairs  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 168 Nays: 0

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-23-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**  
**Amendments:**

**SB 565 Sentence and Punishment; any time after conviction; defendant convicted of an offense and sentenced as a direct result of being a victim of trafficking for labor or sexual servitude may petition the sentencing court to grant the relief of vacatur; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 565 allows for a victim of human trafficking to vacate his or her sentence through a petition. This bill changes the timeframe of the existing procedure and allows for the petition to be filed at any time following a conviction of a misdemeanor or felony. Further, reimbursement of any fines and fees previously paid by the victim to the court that is vacating the sentence shall be paid to the victim from the Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund, which then creates a debt owed to the state that the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Board shall seek reimbursement for from the applicable entities. The bill also allows for remote testimony of the petitioner and expert witnesses.

**Authored By:** Sen. Brian Strickland (17th)  
**House** Judiciary Non-Civil  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 151 Nays: 0

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-22-2022 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute  
**Amendments:**

**SB 566 Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act; a medical or traumatic condition includes a mental health condition or substance use disorder; emergency medical services include post-stabilization services; clarify**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 566 adds mental health and substance use conditions to the definition of emergency medical services in order to include the conditions in the 'Surprise Billing Consumer Act.' The bill also clarifies that an emergency department visit that leads to inpatient admission is billed as one service.

**Authored By:** Sen. Dean Burke (11th)  
**House** Insurance  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 163 Nays: 3

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-23-2022 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute  
**Amendments:**

**SB 588 Local Boards of Education; all meetings of local boards of education shall be open to the public except as otherwise provided by law; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 588 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-58 to provide that all meetings of a local board of education have a public comment period on its agenda posted prior to the meeting. Yearly, a local board sets the dates of their meetings and makes that schedule available to the public on its website. The local board adopts rules of conduct for its public meetings and publishes these in a prominent manner on its website. No member of the public is to be removed from a meeting unless there is an actual disruption of the proceedings or there is a violation of the rules of conduct established by that board. Visual and sound recordings are permitted at all public meetings of a local board of education.

**Authored By:** Sen. Butch Miller (49th)  
**House** Education  
**Committee:**  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 129 Nays: 41

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-23-2022 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute  
**Amendments:**

## Local Calendar

**HB 797 Clarke County; ad valorem tax; increase existing general and senior homestead exemptions**

Bill Summary: House Bill 797 increases existing general and senior homestead exemptions and creates a low-income base-year value homestead exemption from ad valorem taxes levied by the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County for unified government purposes.

**Authored By:** Rep. Houston Gaines (117th)  
**House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas:   Nays:  
**Floor Action:** Recommit to Committee

**Rule Applied:**  
**Committee Action:** 03-28-2022 Do Pass by Committee Substitute  
**Amendments:**

**HB 1587 Camden County Public Service Authority; provide for removal of members**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1587 provides for the removal of members of the Camden County Public Service Authority. By majority vote of the appointing governing body, any elected or appointed member may be removed at any time.

**Authored By:** Rep. Steven Sainz (180th)  
**House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 148   Nays: 4

**Rule Applied:**  
**Committee Action:** 03-25-2022 Do Pass  
**Amendments:**

**HB 1590 Camden County Spaceport Authority; repeal Act**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1590 repeals an act creating the Camden County Spaceport Authority.

**Authored By:** Rep. Steven Sainz (180th)  
**House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 148   Nays: 4

**Rule Applied:**  
**Committee Action:** 03-25-2022 Do Pass  
**Amendments:**

**HB 1592 Long County Building and Public Facilities Authority Act; enact**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1592 creates the Long County Building and Public Facilities Authority.

**Authored By:** Rep. Buddy DeLoach (167th)  
**House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 148   Nays: 4

**Rule Applied:**  
**Committee Action:** 03-25-2022 Do Pass  
**Amendments:**

**HB 1593 Jackson, City of; provide for a city manager**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1593 provides for a city manager for the city of Jackson.

**Authored By:** Rep. Clint Crowe (110th)  
**House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 148   Nays: 4

**Rule Applied:**  
**Committee Action:** 03-25-2022 Do Pass  
**Amendments:**

**HB 1594 Savannah, City of; Chatham County; Board of Education; modify compensation of members**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1594 modifies the compensation of the members of the Board of Public Education for the city of Savannah and Chatham County. The members of the board shall receive \$25,000 per year and the chairperson shall receive \$35,000 per year.

**Authored By:** Rep. Derek Mallow (163rd)  
**House Committee:** Intragovernmental Coordination - Local  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 148   Nays: 4

**Rule Applied:**  
**Committee Action:** 03-25-2022 Do Pass  
**Amendments:**

**HB 1595 Fayette County; State Court; change compensation of judge and solicitor**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1595 changes the compensation of the Fayette County State Court judge. The judge of the state court shall receive an amount equal to 90 percent of the base salary of a judge of the superior courts of the state, plus 90 percent of the supplement paid to superior court judges of the Griffin Judicial Circuit.

<b>Authored By:</b>	Rep. Josh Bonner (72nd)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-25-2022 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 148 Nays: 4	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 1596 Fayette County; State Court; authorize assessment and collection of a technology fee**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1596 authorizes the assessment and collection of a technology fee by the Fayette County State Court.

<b>Authored By:</b>	Rep. Josh Bonner (72nd)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-25-2022 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 148 Nays: 4	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 1597 Canton, City of; provide new charter**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1597 provides a new charter for the city of Canton.

<b>Authored By:</b>	Rep. Mandi Ballinger (23rd)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-25-2022 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 148 Nays: 4	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**HB 1598 Guyton, City of; provide new charter**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1598 provides a new charter for the city of Guyton.

<b>Authored By:</b>	Rep. Jon Burns (159th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-25-2022 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 148 Nays: 4	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**SB 620 City of Doraville; levy on excise tax; procedures, conditions, and limitations; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 620 authorizes the city of Doraville to levy an excise tax.

<b>Authored By:</b>	Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-25-2022 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 148 Nays: 4	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**SB 621 City of Doraville; certain councilmembers are elected by districts; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 621 provides that certain councilmembers of the city of Doraville are elected by district.

<b>Authored By:</b>	Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)	<b>Rule Applied:</b>	
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-25-2022 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Floor Vote:</b>	Yeas: 148 Nays: 4	<b>Amendments:</b>	

**SB 622 City of Doraville; the amount of a homestead exemption from City of Doraville ad valorem taxes; revise**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 622 revises the amount of a city of Doraville homestead exemption by providing each resident of the city a \$10,000 exemption off the assessed value of the homestead plus

an amount that provides the dollar equivalent of a 2.5 mill reduction of the millage rate.

**Authored By:** Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)  
**House** Intragovernmental Coordination -  
**Committee:** Local  
**Floor Vote:** Yeas: 148 Nays: 4

**Rule Applied:**  
**Committee** 03-25-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**  
**Amendments:**

## **Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules**

*The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 37th Legislative Day, Tuesday, March 29, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Rules Committee will next meet on Tuesday, March 29, at 9:00 a.m., to set the Rules Calendar for the 38th Legislative Day.*

### **SB 330 "Giving the Gift of Life Act"; enact**

**Bill Summary:** Senate Bill 330 prohibits insurance companies from canceling, modifying, or refusing to issue life insurance based on an individual's status as an organ donor.

**Authored By:** Sen. John Albers (56th)  
**House** Ways & Means  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-24-2022 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute

### **SB 345 State Government; state and local governments from mandating vaccine passports; prohibit**

**Bill Summary:** Senate Bill 345 prohibits state and local governments from requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of providing services, accessing a facility, issuing licenses or permits, performing duties, and other matters.

**Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)  
**House** Health & Human Services  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-22-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**

### **SB 397 General Educational Development (GED) Diplomas; update and replace terminology; state approved high school equivalency (HSE) diplomas; provide**

**Bill Summary:** Senate Bill 397 amends the O.C.G.A. titles 15, 20, 25, 40, 42, and 43 to update terminology from "general educational development (GED) diplomas" by replacing it with "state approved high school equivalency (HSE)." Current law provides for a HOPE GED voucher issued upon the receipt of a GED diploma, but SB 397 updates it to the HOPE HSE voucher and allows those funds to go toward the cost of an approved exam instead of a reward on the back end.

**Authored By:** Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)  
**House** Higher Education  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-24-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**

### **SB 479 Firearms by Convicted Felons and First Offender Probationers; each firearm in the possession or attempted possession of certain offenders shall be charged as a separate offense; specify**

**Bill Summary:** Senate Bill 479 increases the penalty for those 1) who are on probation as a felony first offender, who are on probation for a felony, or who have been convicted of a felony in Georgia or elsewhere, and 2) who receive, possess, or transport a firearm. This bill makes it a separate violation for each firearm that is connected to the crime.

**Authored By:** Sen. Bo Hatchett (50th)  
**House** Judiciary Non-Civil  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-24-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**

**SB 486 Agricultural Commodity Commission for Propane; full or partial remote communication with regard to public hearings; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 486 allows for any meeting of the Agricultural Commodity Commission for Propane to be held in-person, remotely, or a combination of both in-person and remote. Notice of a hearing shall be provided on the commission's website and in the Farmers and Consumers Market Bulletin, or a similar publication.

SB 486 changes the process of adopting an assessment to require a minimum response rate of 25 percent of notified eligible dealers and two-thirds of eligible votes cast in favor of the assessment.

**Authored By:** Sen. Tyler Harper (7th)  
**House** Agriculture & Consumer Affairs  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-23-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**

**SB 496 Death Investigations; medical examiner's inquiry when a pregnant female dies and an inquest; require**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 496 requires a medical examiner's inquiry in cases where a woman dies within 365 days of being pregnant. This requirement is waived in cases when such woman dies from the result of a motor vehicle accident or when the cause of death is known. Coroners or medical examiners notified of such death are required to order an inquiry through a regional perinatal center.

**Authored By:** Sen. Dean Burke (11th)  
**House** Health & Human Services  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-24-2022 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute

**SB 534 State Government; certain procedural requirements and considerations for the adoption of rules by state agencies that are applicable to charitable organizations; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 534 amends the 'Administrative Procedures Act' to provide guidelines for amending, adopting, and repealing rules that affect charitable organizations.

**Authored By:** Sen. John Kennedy (18th)  
**House** Governmental Affairs  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-23-2022 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute

**SB 558 Department of Transportation; meetings for the election of board members; amend notice provisions**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 558 allows for the call of a caucus for the purposes of a Department of Transportation board election to be sent via email rather than by mail. The bill also cleans up language relating to contracting for public-private partnerships and alternative contracting methods. HB 558 adds the Department of Transportation to the Code section relating to when public disclosure not required by a state agency and adds the data of vehicle information, or personally identifiable information to those records not required for disclosure.

SB 558 also provides a length increase from 80 feet to 84 feet for modular unit transporters. This increase would be permissible when the vehicle has been issued a permit.

**Authored By:** Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)  
**House** Transportation  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-24-2022 Do Pass by Committee  
**Action:** Substitute

**SB 573 Hospitals and Health Care Facilities; hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to utilize surgical smoke evacuation systems during surgical procedures to protect patients and health care workers from the hazards of surgical smoke; require**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 573 requires hospitals to adopt policies to reduce exposure to surgical smoke.

**Authored By:** Sen. Matt Brass (28th)  
**House** Health & Human Services  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-24-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**

**SB 586 Road Projects; the use of the design-build contracting method by counties; authorize**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 586 authorizes counties to use the design-build contracting method.

**Authored By:** Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)  
**House** Transportation  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured  
**Committee** 03-24-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**

**SR 463 Joint Study Committee on the Electrification of Transportation; create**

Bill Summary: Senate Resolution 463 creates the Joint Study Committee on the Electrification of Transportation.

**Authored By:** Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)  
**House** Transportation  
**Committee:**

**Rule Applied:** Modified-Open  
**Committee** 03-24-2022 Do Pass  
**Action:**



## Committee Actions

*Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office and are placed on the General Calendar.*

### Economic Development & Tourism Committee

#### **HR 1026 House Study Committee on Economic Development Opportunities and Alternative Sources of Investment Funding; create**

Bill Summary: House Resolution 1026 creates the House Study Committee on Economic Development Opportunities and Alternative Sources of Investment Funding. The study committee will work to determine new and appropriate methods of promoting economic development and creating business opportunities in support of younger adults and others who elect not to complete traditional postsecondary education programs. The committee will be composed of five members of the House of Representatives as appointed by the speaker. This committee is abolished on December 1, 2022.

<b>Authored By:</b>	Rep. Yasmin Neal (74th)		
<b>House</b>	Economic Development & Tourism	<b>Committee</b>	03-28-2022 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>		<b>Action:</b>	

#### **SB 142 Lottery for Education; lottery game of sports wagering in this state; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 142 establishes the 'Georgia Sports Betting Integrity Act' and amends the allowed shortfall reserve amount within the Lottery for Education Account.

Beginning in Fiscal Year 2023, the Lottery for Education Account shortfall reserve fund shall be equal to at least 50 percent of the average amount of net proceeds deposited into the account over the preceding three fiscal years. Beginning in FY 2024, if on the last day of the preceding fiscal year the total reserve fund balance exceeds the minimum reserve, 10 percent of the excess reserve funds shall be appropriated for educational purposes and programs.

The bill also establishes the 'Georgia Sports Betting Integrity Act.' The Act allows individuals 21 years of age and older, who are physically present in Georgia, to place bets on certain sporting events through an interactive sports wagering platform that is licensed by the Georgia Gaming Corporation to accept sports bets in this state. Bets may be placed on professional sporting events, collegiate sporting events, Olympic sporting events, or any other event authorized by the Georgia Gaming Corporation.

The bill provides the Georgia Gaming Corporation with all powers and duties necessary to regulate and supervise the lottery game of sports betting. Those powers include the authority to issue licenses to qualified applicants. The bill also provides requirements for the application for a license, which includes a non-refundable application fee of \$100,000 and an annual licensing fee of \$1,000,000 for type 1 sports betting licenses, a non-refundable application fee of \$10,000 and an annual licensing fee of \$100,000 for type 2 sports betting distributor and platform licenses, a non-refundable application fee of \$500 and an annual licensing fee of \$500 for type 2 sports betting retail licenses, and a non-refundable application fee of \$10,000 and an annual licensing fee of \$100,000 for online sports betting supplier licenses. Certain individuals who are involved in the sports wagering industry and sport team, league, or associations are not eligible to apply for or obtain a license.

Type 1 sports betting licenses are to be issued for direct or indirect online sports betting, and type 2 sports betting licenses are to be issued to the retail location, distributor, and platform creators of sports betting machines.

The Georgia Gaming Corporation shall establish rules and regulations related to the business requirements of the licensees. Those rules and regulations must include, but are not limited to, designating an amount of a bond in escrow and an amount of cash to be kept on hand to ensure adequate reserves, insurance requirements, controls over internal fiscal affairs, requirements for internal and independent audits of licensees, the financial information to be provided to the Georgia

Gaming Corporation, and policies designed to mitigate the risk of cheating and money laundering.

Licensees must utilize geolocation or geofencing technology to ensure that wagering is only available to bettors who are physically in this state and must allow bettors to restrict themselves from placing wagers.

All bettors must register with the licensee remotely prior to placing any bets. The registration process must verify the name and age of the bettor; verify that the bettor is allowed to bet in this state; and obtain a physical address, phone number, unique username, and an active email account. Bettors are only allowed to register one account with a licensee and may fund the account using an electronic bank transfer of funds, a debit card, or other online payment systems that support money transfers.

The bill provides a list of individuals not allowed to wager on sporting events. The Georgia Gaming Corporation must maintain a confidential registry of all persons and categories of persons who are not eligible to place a wager on a sporting event and must provide that list to each licensee.

Licensees are not allowed to offer, accept, or extend credit to a bettor; target minors in advertising or promotions; offer or accept a wager on any event, outcome, or occurrence other than a sporting event; accept a wager from an individual not eligible to wager; or allow a minor to place a wager. Licensees are also not allowed to offer bets on injuries, penalties, or other forms of wagering that are contrary to public policy or unfair to bettors.

Licensees are able to use data from any source for determining the results of all live betting, including, but not limited to, official league data.

Bettors shall have the right to access information necessary for making wagers as well as information demonstrating that the licensee's offerings are administered legally and fairly. This information includes, but is not limited to: the handling of wages, the odds, payment amounts and schedule of payouts, systems for reporting suspicions of fraud and available legal actions, and resources for problem gambling. Bettors shall also have the right to privacy and protection of their personally identifiable information and to the security of their funds and financial activities as well as the right to recourse against a licensee in the event that he or she believes a transaction has been mishandled.

A privilege fee of 20 percent shall be imposed on the adjusted gross income of each licensee. Adjusted gross income is the total of all money paid to the licensee as a bet minus federal excise taxes and the total amount paid out as winnings. The privilege fee revenue and the revenue generated from application and annual fees shall be distributed by the corporation to the general fund of the State Treasury and used as provided under Article I, Section II, Paragraph VIII of the Constitution. The bill also exempts wagers authorized by the Georgia Lottery Corporation from sales and use tax.

**Authored By:** Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)

**House Committee:** Economic Development & Tourism

**Committee Action:**

03-28-2022 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

### **SR 135 Sports Betting; related matters; provide -CA**

**Bill Summary:** Senate Resolution 135 amends the Constitution to allow the General Assembly to provide by law for the operation and regulation of sports betting through the Georgia Lottery Corporation and to increase the minimum funding for the educational shortfall reserves.

The resolution amends the amount of lottery proceeds that are to be appropriated to educational shortfall reserves from 10 percent of the net proceeds of the lottery for the preceding year to not less than 50 percent or more than 60 percent of the net proceeds of the lottery for the preceding three years. For FY 2023 and FY 2024, the lottery for education account shortfall reserve fund shall not be more than 75 percent and 65 percent of the average amount of net proceeds deposited into the account over the preceding three fiscal years, respectively.

The resolution also requires the General Assembly to create a gaming commission, which shall have the powers and duties necessary to regulate sports betting activities.

The resolution also specifies that 40.5 percent of the proceeds from the revenues from sports betting shall be disbursed to the Lottery for Education Fund to be utilized for educational programs and educational purposes; 20.5 percent of the proceeds shall be disbursed to the Education Opportunity Fund to be utilized for needs-based scholarships, grants, or loans to citizens of this state to enable such citizens to attend University System of Georgia, Technical College System of Georgia, or eligible private colleges and universities; 12 percent of the proceeds shall be disbursed to the Healthcare Equality Fund to be utilized for rural health care services and health care insurance coverage; 12 percent of the proceeds shall be disbursed to the Mental Health Services Fund to be utilized for mental health services; 12 percent of the proceeds shall be distributed to the Broadband and Communications Technologies Fund to be utilized for the deployment of broadband services and other communications technologies throughout the state at adequate speeds with priority given to rural areas with the least amount of broadband coverage; and three percent shall be disbursed to the Major Sporting Events Fund to be utilized for the costs associated with hosting major sporting events.

The resolution also provides the following ballot question: "Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to authorize online sports wagering in this state with the proceeds to be used for need-based and other educational funding, rural health care services, mental health services, hosting major sporting events, deployment of broadband services, and to increase the minimum funding requirement for the educational shortfall reserves?"

<b>Authored By:</b>	Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)	<b>Committee</b>	03-28-2022 Do Pass by Committee
<b>House</b>	Economic Development & Tourism	<b>Action:</b>	Substitute
<b>Committee:</b>			

## Higher Education Committee

### **SB 379 State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia; establish a program to promote the creation and expansion of registered apprenticeship programs in the state; provide**

**Bill Summary:** Senate Bill 379 amends the O.C.G.A. by adding a new article, 20-4-150, that establishes a program to promote the creation and expansion of registered apprenticeship programs in the state. This program, called the "High-demand Career Initiatives Program," is under the Office of Workforce Development and has the purpose of incentivizing apprenticeship sponsors to establish new or grow existing registered apprenticeship programs in Georgia in order to expand high-quality work-based learning experiences in high-demand fields and careers of the state. Upon successful completion of the requirements under a contract of an employer sponsor, that sponsor receives a completion reward up to \$10,000 per apprentice.

<b>Authored By:</b>	Sen. Brian Strickland (17th)	<b>Committee</b>	03-28-2022 Do Pass
<b>House</b>	Higher Education	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>			

## Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

### **HB 797 Clarke County; ad valorem tax; increase existing general and senior homestead exemptions**

**Bill Summary:** House Bill 797 increases existing general and senior homestead exemptions and creates a low-income base-year value homestead exemption from ad valorem taxes levied by the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County for unified government purposes.

<b>Authored By:</b>	Rep. Houston Gaines (117th)	<b>Committee</b>	03-28-2022 Do Pass by Committee
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Action:</b>	Substitute
<b>Committee:</b>	Local		

### **HB 1600 Flemington, City of; levy an excise tax**

**Bill Summary:** House Bill 1600 authorizes the city of Flemington to levy an excise tax.

<b>Authored By:</b>	Rep. Al Williams (168th)	<b>Committee</b>	03-28-2022 Do Pass
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Action:</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	Local		

**HB 1601 Echols County; Board of Commissioners; increase size**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1601 increases the size of the Echols County Board of Commissioners.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. John Corbett (174th)		
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-28-2022 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	

**HB 1602 Murray County; board of elections and registration; establish**

Bill Summary: House Bill 1602 establishes the Murray County Board of Elections and Registration.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Rep. Rick Jasperse (11th)		
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-28-2022 Do Pass
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	

**SB 560 County Board of Education of DeKalb County; code of conduct for board members and a duty to abide by the same; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 560 revises provisions relating to the compensation of the DeKalb County Board of Education. The chairperson of the board shall receive \$24,500 per year, the vice-chairperson shall receive \$23,500 per year, and the other members of the board shall receive \$22,500 per year. Additionally, the chairperson and the members of the board shall receive an expense allowance of \$2,500 per year.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th)		
<b>House</b>	Intragovernmental Coordination -	<b>Committee</b>	03-28-2022 Do Pass by Committee
<b>Committee:</b>	Local	<b>Action:</b>	Substitute

**Judiciary Committee****SB 364 Telephone Service; class action suits and for damages against certain persons for violating provisions relating to telephone solicitations; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 364 allows for citizens on the Do Not Call List who continue to receive unauthorized telephone solicitations, specifically more than two within any six-month period, to bring an action against the person or entity that made the solicitations and/or the person or entity the telephone solicitations were made on behalf of for injunctive relief and damages. When bringing an action, it must be proven that the solicitation was made with permission or acquiescence of the defendant. It is not a defense that the defendant did not make the telephone solicitation or that the defendant was unaware the solicitation violated the law.

<b>Authorized By:</b>	Sen. Blake Tillery (19th)		
<b>House</b>	Judiciary	<b>Committee</b>	03-28-2022 Do Pass by Committee
<b>Committee:</b>		<b>Action:</b>	Substitute

**SB 374 Georgia Data Analytic Center; establish as an agent of all executive state agencies; definitions; provide**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 374 defines the Georgia Data Analytic Center (GDAC) as an agent of all executive state agencies that shares and receives government information. Executive state agencies shall cooperate with GDAC requests for receipt of or access to data unless an attorney general review determines and explains that the request would result in a violation of law. Sharing of data to and from GDAC does not constitute a disclosure or release under law, and any confidential or privileged designation of government information shall be maintained when sharing with GDAC. Protections for individually identifiable information are included, with criminal penalties for obtaining, attempting to obtain, negligently communicating, or disclosing methods for securing individually identifiable information.

Senate Bill 374 also concerns user fees, requiring the collection of fees imposed by law, rule, or regulation to be paid into the State Treasury. Additionally, departments and agencies charged with collecting user fees shall report to the House and Senate budget offices by August 1 of each year both

whether each existing user fee sufficiently covers the costs of the corresponding services as well as whether an opportunity for a new user fee exists.

**Authored By:** Sen. Blake Tillery (19th)  
**House Committee:** Judiciary

**Committee Action:** 03-28-2022 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

## Committee Meeting Schedule

*This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change. To keep up with the latest schedule, please visit [www.house.ga.gov](http://www.house.ga.gov) and click on [Meetings Calendar](#).*

### Tuesday - March 29, 2022

8:00 AM	<a href="#">JUDICIARY COMMITTEE</a>	132 CAP HYBRID	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
8:15 AM	<a href="#">JOINT HOUSE AND SENATE APPROPRIATIONS CONFERENCE COMMITTEE</a>	403 CAP	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
9:00 AM	<a href="#">RULES COMMITTEE</a>	341 CAP	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
10:00 AM	<a href="#">FLOOR SESSION (LD 37)</a>	House Chamber	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	
1:00 PM	<a href="#">Ways &amp; Means Public Finance &amp; Policy Subcommittee</a>	403 CAP HYBRID	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
1:00 PM	<a href="#">HUMAN RELATIONS &amp; AGING COMMITTEE</a>	341 CAP	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
1:00 PM	<a href="#">DEFENSE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE</a>	506 CLOB HYBRID	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
2:00 PM	<a href="#">HEALTH &amp; HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE</a>	606 CLOB HYBRID	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
2:00 PM	<a href="#">Public Safety &amp; Homeland Security Subcommittee A</a>	406 CLOB	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
3:00 PM	<a href="#">JUDICIARY NON-CIVIL COMMITTEE</a>	132 CAP HYBRID	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
3:00 PM	<a href="#">JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE</a>	341 CAP HYBRID	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>
4:00 PM	<a href="#">REGULATED INDUSTRIES COMMITTEE</a>	506 CLOB HYBRID	<a href="#">VIDEO</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>